

CENSUS CounterParts

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Sen. Barbara Mikulski—with AFGE Local Union 2782 President Avis Buchanan and Census Director Louis Kincannon—spoke to about 500 Bureau employees about the new building, new funding and a renewed commitment to the census' importance.

Mikulski Says Census Bureau Will Not Be 'Overlooked and Undervalued'

By MONTY WOOD
Public Information Office

Union leader Avis Buchanan recalled the events that led to her first discussions with Sen. Barbara Mikulski (D-Md.) about seven years ago – events that not only led to a more

Discussions with Mikulski – who is the new ranking member on the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice and Science – brought about a fence first made of chain link and then of more decorative wrought iron. These discussions also led to a tour for the junior senator from Maryland throughout the Census headquarters facilities.

"I came and took a look around ... what a dump," Mikulski said during a 16-minute address. "My Lord, we're going to have a fence that's better than the building. I saw the mold on the walls, the asbestos on the ceilings, dripping pipes and gerrymandering of wires trying to bring in technology for a building built in the 1940s. I was worried about the health of the Census Bureau employees."

secure facility, but helped open discussions for a new building as well.

"There was not a fence around the Suitland Complex," Buchanan said in late November to about 500 Census Bureau employees in the main auditorium during a town-hall meeting featuring Mikulski and Census Bureau Director Louis Kincannon. "You would go out for lunch, and your car wasn't there. You would see it driving across the parking lot ... and you weren't in it!"

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Photo by Hubert Dobson



Sen. Barbara Mikulski: "The census has been overlooked and undervalued ... but no more. I have been called to glory."

Soon after that tour, Commerce Secretary Donald Evans began action toward obtaining funding for a new building that would cost more than \$300 million and feature about 1.5 million square feet of office space. The building's first occupants are expected to settle in sometime this year.

Mikulski said her work continues with the push in the Senate

for full funding of Census programs and activities. The House and Senate recently approved an \$812 million budget for the Census Bureau's fiscal year 2006 operations. Mikulski vowed to make the Census Bureau a priority in the future.

"I love the census, and I worry about the census," Mikulski said. "The census has been overlooked and undervalued ... but no more. I have been called to glory."

"2010 is really the census that gives us the direction for the 21st century," Mikulski said. "It is going to be absolutely crucial, and we want to make sure it's done right. America is depending on you."

Edwin D. Goldfield (1918–2005)

In 1950, Secret Service agents gave Edwin D. Goldfield a visit. Citing national security concerns, they wanted information about people living near a house that President Truman would occupy during renovations to the White House.

They came to the wrong place.

The 1950 Census program coordinator refused to divulge any confidential or personal information. It was that integrity, as well as his background in mathematics, statistics and economics, that made Goldfield one of the most revered figures in Census Bureau history.

Goldfield died of cardiovascular disease on Sept. 27, at age 87, in his Temple Hills, Md., home.

Goldfield began at the Census Bureau in 1940 when the facilities were located in Southwest D.C., and made the move to the current headquarters in Suitland, Md. He remained there until his retirement in 1975 but maintained an office for many years later.

Goldfield took part in the movement away from punch-card machines, that had been in use for 50 years, toward the use of computers, the first being UNIVAC 1.

In his 35 years with the Bureau, he

was program coordinator, assistant director, chief of the Statistical Reports Division and chief of the International Statistical Programs Center. He was once president of the American Statistical Society and staff director of the House Subcommittee on the Census, a member of the International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences' editorial advisory board and a consultant to the Social Science Research Council.

Census Bureau Director Louis Kincannon, who came to the bureau in 1963, said Goldfield had the ability to work with different divisions and directorates and excel in the complex process of compiling statistical abstracts.

"Ed was always asking imaginative questions," Kincannon said. "He could be a bit of a pest sometimes, but he was a sharp guy who went around and talked to people and stayed in touch with



Edwin Goldfield worked for the Census Bureau from 1940 to 1975 and kept an office with the Bureau for many years after that.

leaders of the profession. That gave him an advantage in knowledge and preparation."

Hollerith's Great-Granddaughter Carries on Census Tradition

By JESS A. AVINA

Charlotte Regional Office

Nancy Carthcart knew that her great-grandfather was a famous inventor and a key figure in U.S. Census Bureau history. But it wasn't until she began work as a clerk for a special census in Mount Pleasant, S.C., last May, that she realized the importance of his work.

Carthcart was curious as to how the census worked because she had heard so much about her great-grandfather, Herman Hollerith. So she applied for the temporary job in her hometown.

"I was able to experience the whole process from the hiring of enumerators to editing questionnaires and registers to taping up boxes of supplies and questionnaires," said Carthcart. "My experience with the census was a learning one, and I hope to continue that experience in the decennial census in 2010."

Hollerith first helped with the 1880 census and experienced firsthand the laborious and error-prone operation of

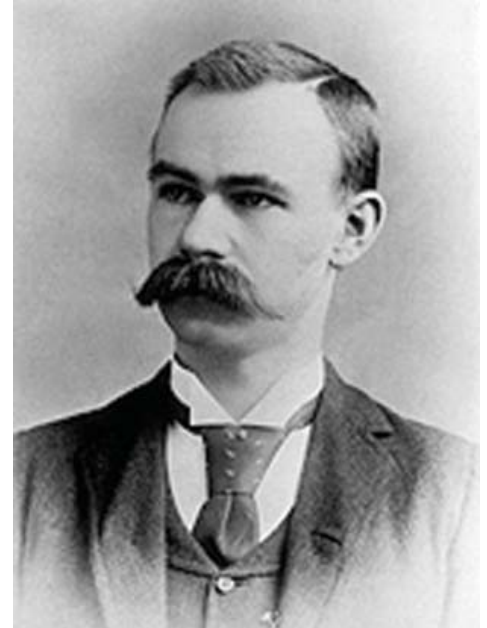
the day. In the following decade, he developed an electro-mechanical tabulating machine that was used for the 1890 census, reducing work that took years into mere months.

Hollerith died in 1929, long before Carthcart was born, but she enjoyed time spent at the home he built in 1911 in Washington, D.C.

"I loved exploring in that house where his three daughters, my great-aunts, lived," Carthcart said. "My great-aunts always said that Herman wanted the facade of the house to be unadorned so as not to attract the attention of the tax collector."

She said she also had fun times at her great-grandfather's farm in Brighton, Va.

"The attic of the main house was filled with such interesting old things," she said. "I was also fascinated with the workshop's old tools and a cabinet



Herman Hollerith (1860–1929)

full of old screws, nuts and bolts. Apparently, Herman was so bothered by the rustling leaves of the poplar trees around the house that he threatened to have them cut down. Instead, he had the house demolished and built a new one. Of course, the trees had to come down to make room for the new house."

Hollerith's tabulating machines were used again in 1900 as well as in many other countries. Hollerith went on to found the company that would later be known as IBM.

"I acquired insight as to how the census process works, and I think Herman Hollerith would be proud and amazed at how far that process has come since his invention," Carthcart said.



Nancy Carthcart, a temporary clerk for a special census in Mount Pleasant, S.C., posed years ago for a photo next to her great-grandfather's tabulating machine at a Smithsonian display.

Latest 'Wise Elder' Shares His Thoughts on Fellegi Day

By MEGAN KINDELAN
Public Information Office

Dr. Ivan Fellegi, the chief statistician of Statistics Canada, became the fifth "wise elder" to share his wisdom with Census Bureau employees and guests on Oct. 26.

Fellegi shared insights and stories and answered questions about leadership and the future of the statistical system during a seminar titled "A Lifetime in Official Statistics: A Question and Answer Period."

The seminar, conducted by the Census Bureau Human Capital Management Council and the Statistical Research Division Seminar Series, was held in the Morris Hansen auditorium.

"There are few redeeming features of being an elder, but one of them is that my career overlapped with legendary figures such as Morris Hansen," Fellegi said. "It is an honor to be in a room named after him."

Fellegi has served Statistics Canada since 1957 and was named chief statistician of Statistics Canada in 1985.

In 1978, he was appointed to the Commission on the Reorganization of the U.S. Statistical System, established by President Jimmy Carter.

"I learned a great deal, and it was the best possible preparation for being chief statistician of Statistics Canada," Fellegi said about his work on the commission. "It was an unbelievable learning experience."

Many of the questions asked during the seminar were focused on Statistics Canada's innovative human resources development strategy.

This strategy was put into place to address issues such as budget cuts, an aging workforce and technological advances. It is based on four key areas: hiring new recruits, training, developing employee skills and flexibility through career broadening assignments, and creating a positive work environment.

Fellegi focused on the Corporate Assignments Division, a brokerage system where employees who want to try something new are matched up with managers who require temporary help. This rotational program of different assignments is done with a minimum of red tape and provides employees with experience and a broader knowledge of different areas of the agency.

Fellegi told the audience that an important lesson he has learned during his career is to share authority.

"Collegiality is a really big fundamental for a statistical organization because the product involves many disciplines," he said. "If you don't really work in trust with one another, you are bound to fail."

"One challenge faced by all statistical organizations is to remain relevant and be aware of the needs of the client," said Fellegi.



Photo by Lauren Brenner

Bill Smith (right), executive director of the American Statistical Association, presents Ivan Fellegi with a plaque commemorating Ivan P. Fellegi Appreciation Day on Oct. 26, 2005.

"Our job is to articulate and convince clients of a new way of looking at things," he said.

At the end of his remarks, Fellegi was presented with a 2004–2005 Statistical Abstract by Tyra Dent Smith, director of the Human Resources Division, in appreciation of his work.

"Now I will no longer have an excuse when you ask me a question and I don't know the answer," Fellegi joked to the audience.

Fellegi was also presented with a plaque from the American Statistical Association (ASA).

Bill Smith, executive director, said the ASA passed a resolution declaring Oct. 26, 2005, "Ivan P. Fellegi Appreciation Day" throughout the statistics community.

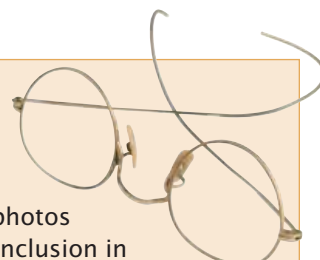
This resolution was enacted to honor Fellegi for his contributions to the field and his leadership within the statistics community.

Wood Named CounterParts Editor

Monty Wood, a former deputy editor with The Washington Times, has been hired as the senior editor in the Public Information Office and named editor of Census CounterParts. He brings more than 20 years of professional newspaper experience to the Census Bureau.

Marcia Willhide, who has been with the Bureau for nine years, has been named assistant editor and will be responsible for a major part of the news gathering and production of Census CounterParts.

You can send articles and photos for possible inclusion in Census CounterParts to Monty at <montgomery.f.wood@census.gov> or Marcia at <marcia.s.willhide@census.gov>.



60-Year-Old Census Figure Reaches New Heights

By MARCIA WILLHIDE

Public Information Office

How do you plan on celebrating your 60th birthday? Will you be opening some gifts, going on a trip or maybe straining to blow out all those candles?

If you're Cam McIntosh, an information services specialist in the Census Bureau's Seattle Regional Office, you celebrate by climbing one of the tallest mountains in the world. McIntosh, an 18-year Census Bureau employee, accomplished one of her life's goals by recently scaling Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa.

"In our work, we are mentally challenged, but I wanted to add to it and have that physical challenge," McIntosh said. That challenge entailed reaching an altitude of 19,430 feet – by climbing the highest freestanding mountain in the world and one of the world's largest volcanoes.

"You need a strong desire to get to the top," she said.

McIntosh often hikes with her husband on weekends and vacations; but since he suffers from altitude sickness, she took a close girlfriend on the mountaineering expedition in Africa. They chose Mount Kilimanjaro because it is a nontechnical climb, meaning it is an extremely strenuous hike that does not require scaling equipment.

Her journey began with 13 other hikers (or clients as they are known) along with a support crew of 75 porters and guides who assisted by carrying such things as tents, food and daily necessities. Each hiker was responsible for carrying one backpack. Food was plentiful, but the desire to eat it was not.

"Altitude makes you less hungry," McIntosh said. "Sometimes you must force yourself to eat."

McIntosh's favorite foods included avocados (which she slathered on everything) and hot soup. Climbers were also encouraged to drink plenty of water since dehydration can be overwhelming at high altitudes.

The trek began at 7,500 feet above sea level, in 70-degree temperatures. Seven days later, at the summit they were experiencing temperatures more than 20 degrees below freezing. The trip down, taking a different route than the ascent, took about a day and a half.

"You are actually going through different eco-zones," she said of the ascent. "You are parallel to traveling from the equator to the Arctic on the way to the summit. A huge challenge for the hikers is how difficult it is to breathe while

ascending. You walk very slowly."

Of the original 14 clients, 11 completed the journey. McIntosh said traversing the Western Breach was her best day because she was able to meet both the mental and physical challenges of the rocky terrain.

"The most challenging part of the climb was at the Western Breach, which is a steep wall of rock and big boulders," she said. "At 16,000 feet, we knew that we still had to climb 2,500 feet over frozen scree (after four inches of fresh snow had fallen), and the climbing had to be completed before sunset."

McIntosh's team—calling themselves the AARP group because they were all over 50—arrived at the "Roof of Africa" in the early morning.

"It was flat, with amazing views in every direction, particularly when looking in the direction of the glaciers," she said of the summit.



Cam McIntosh of the Seattle Regional Office celebrated her 60th birthday by climbing to the top of Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa. It took seven days to reach the summit and one and a half to descend.

The hikers remained at the top for about a half-hour for pictures before beginning the descent, covering as much as 10,000 feet the first day.

McIntosh's mother, who is 87, followed the group's itinerary at her retirement home and was thrilled that her daughter had completed her challenge.

"It was a goal, and I accomplished it," she said.

Have You Ever Thought About Becoming a Hero?

By TOM EDWARDS

Public Information Office

We see disasters almost daily on the news. Though these events can seem far from our own day-to-day experiences, the fact is, many of us may face tragedy or dire circumstances at some point in our own lives. And many of us will need to turn to others for support.

Have you ever wished you could help others in need, but were not sure what to do? Well, there is a way you can help. Each year, fewer than 5 percent of healthy Americans eligible to donate blood actually do so.

The Census Bureau, in conjunction with the American Red Cross (ARC), offers headquarters employees the convenience of donating blood at work by sponsoring a blood drive every two months. The ARC sets up in the conference rooms behind the Morris Hansen Auditorium in Building 3. For those who are interested in giving blood but do not work at Census headquarters, or for those who wish to participate at a different location, please visit: <www.givelife.org> for other blood drive locations.

The need for blood is great. On any given day, an average of 38,000 units of red blood cells are needed. Blood transfusions are needed for trauma victims, heart surgery, organ transplants, cancer patients and people with blood disorders, to name just a few. Although the demand for blood continues to increase, only a small fraction of eligible donors give blood.

Giving blood is easy and safe, and most of us are eligible to donate. If you are in good health and without medical restrictions on your daily activities – and have not donated blood within the last 56 days – you are probably eligible to give blood.

Yes, there are temporary conditions that may restrict your ability to donate blood. If you've recently had a

tattoo, for example, you must wait 12 months before giving blood. Before you donate blood, there is a brief screening process to determine whether you are eligible or not, that includes taking your temperature and blood pressure and checking your red blood cell level.

The donation process takes about 10 minutes. A sterile needle is inserted in your arm, and then about one pint of blood is collected. It's important to drink extra water – before and after – donating blood. The body normally recoups the lost fluid within about 24 hours, and the lost blood cells within 6 weeks.

The blood you give is subsequently tested and then distributed to hospitals across the country. And, yes, you personally are making a difference.

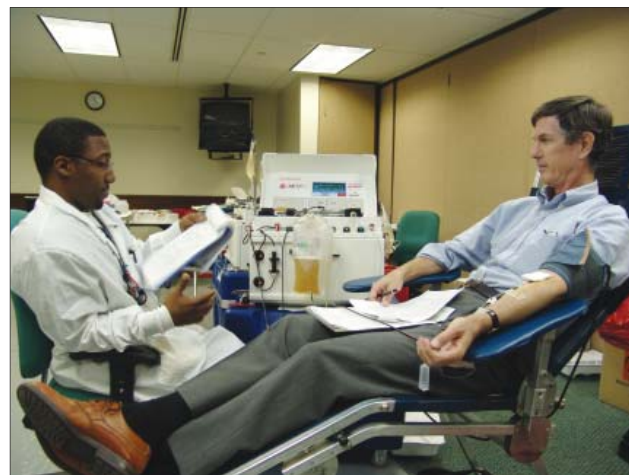


Photo by Mike Morgan

Bill Bell of the Statistical Research Division donates blood at the latest Red Cross drive.

If your blood type is . . .

Type	You Can Give Blood to	You Can Receive Blood From
A+	A+ AB+	A+ A- O+ O-
O+	O+ A+ B+ AB+	O+ O-
B+	B+ AB+	B+ B- O+ O-
AB+	AB+	Everyone
A-	A+ A- AB+ AB-	A- O-
O-	Everyone	O-
B-	B+ B- AB+ AB-	B- O-
AB-	AB+ AB-	AB- A- B- O-

Out of 100 donors

84 donors are RH+	16 donors are RH-
38 are O+	7 are O-
34 are A+	6 are A-
9 are B+	2 are B-
3 are AB+	1 is AB-

Shirley Gordon (HRD) coordinates the blood drive, publicizing each

drive by e-mail broadcast approximately two weeks in advance. You can also call the Health Unit at (301) 763-1673 to schedule an appointment. Text-telephone callers may use (301) 763-0350. Blood drive dates are also posted on the HRD Calendar. For additional information, visit <<http://cwww.hrd.census.gov/hrd/hu/blooddri.htm>>. If you have questions regarding your eligibility to donate blood, you can call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE or visit, <<http://www.redcross.org>>.

CFC Kickoff Reminds Us About the New Orleans Disaster

By MARCIA WILLHIDE
Public Information Office

Dionne Jacob is slowly adjusting to the Washington, D.C., area. Her family has a new home, she's made new friends and has a new job. Yet, the memories of Hurricane Katrina's devastation will affect her and her family for a long time.

"On Monday, August 29, unbeknownst to many citizens, Hurricane Katrina struck New Orleans and devastated so many lives forever," Jacob said to the gathering at the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) Kickoff Rally in November. "What you see on the television is no indication of the devastation. Every plant and tree is dead. People are homeless and some don't know where their loved ones are. Roofs are off of homes. Refrigerators are out."

The CFC, established in 1961, is the largest workplace charity campaign in the country. Nearly 4 million federal



Dionne Jacob (right), shown with union president Avis Buchanan and Census Bureau Director Louis Kincannon, had to leave her New Orleans home because of Hurricane Katrina and is now interim director of the Suitland Day Care Center.

employees and military personnel are able to contribute during the annual drive. Jacob made a passionate plea to people at the rally to help those affected by Mother Nature's fury.

"I was personally affected by the hurricane," she said. "The emotional toll is devastating. To this day, children are terrified at the first sight of rain."

On Aug. 26, Jacob was the director at the Child Development Center that served employees at NASA, Lockheed

Martin, USDA and the National Finance Center in New Orleans. Several days later, her hometown was underwater. The storm destroyed her house, with more than 80 percent of her belongings lost.

"Mold covered everything inside of the house," Jacob said at the rally.

She and her family – which includes her husband, son and daughter (ages 5 and 9) – were able to relocate to Virginia, and she is now the interim director at the Suitland Federal Child Development Center. The center is designed to accommodate up to 68 children from age 6 through preschool.

Jacob said she was thankful for the support of nonprofit organizations, such as those represented by the CFC. These organizations have helped her and her family to resume their lives. She said she was impressed with the generous and caring nature of the people who have helped.

"I am happy to be here even though I have tears," Jacob said. "These are tears of sadness and joy. I have made new friends, met new people and hope to call this area my new home."

Photo by Hubert Dobson

Bureau Honored With SPAIG Award

The U.S. Census Bureau was a proud co-recipient of the American Statistical Association's Statistics Partnerships Among Academe, Industry and Government (SPAIG) Award for 2005, presented at the Joint Statistical Meeting in Minneapolis.

The SPAIG award recognizes outstanding partnerships established between academe and business, industry and government organizations.

This 2005 award recognizes the National Institute of Statistical Sciences, the Census Bureau, Duke University and Telcordia for their outstanding affiliates' program that disseminates advanced statistical methods to corporations and federal agencies.





Construction on the new headquarters in Suitland, Md., continues. Some of the latest work includes the assembly of the wood exterior surface that is expected to reduce energy costs, improve indoor environmental quality and reduce impact on the exterior environment.

The “gently shaped wood sunshades” are made of ipé (ee-pay), a plentiful rainforest hardwood and are designed to help those in the building “feel as though they are closer to – and part of – the natural environment beyond.”



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